

SECRET

30 August 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, Far East Division

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The attached paragraph is from State. It is State's views of what Chairman Stennis is asking about the State feels they are to coordinate all executive agency responses and that these responses should answer the attached questions. Pratt has asked me to send someone to State tomorrow at 1100 hours to go over the status of everyone's papers. I've told him we don't have a paper yet but will be happy to participate and contribute on "who should do what".

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State Dept. review completed

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Approved For Release 2002/07/02 : CIA-RDP73B00296R000200010096-4

TO: APPROVED
FROM: INR - STUART

MEMO. 8/30

FYI

A comprehensive defense of the Administration's policies in Laos and of the role of the United States. This should include answers to such questions as, Why are we in Laos? How much has been spent in the past? What is the justification for the current budget request? Why are the [redacted] involved? How are they funded? Why shouldn't the [redacted] Given the provisions introduced into the law last year, how do we justify U.S. expenditures for [redacted]? Why shouldn't the funding of military assistance to [redacted] be returned to the Foreign Assistance Act? Laos? And other questions raised during Congressional consultations and appearances before Congressional Committees.

Confidential

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

sent us the attached calling our attention especially to

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para 4 which concerns a proposed briefing of the Senate Armed Services Committee staff on the [REDACTED]

says he was not

consulted in advance concerning this message and as far as he knows it was not coordinated with anyone else in the Agency. He was interested in anything we

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could find out about the proposed briefing. [REDACTED] apparently knows nothing

about either the creation of the position or this message. Jim Lawrence in DOD was familiar with both. He said there is considerable feeling in DOD

that this is going to light the fuses of both Symington and Fulbright. DOD

briefed Braswell on this rather generally on Friday (according to Lawrence Braswell is on leave this week). Lawrence said Fulbright and Symington

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are also to be briefed but he does not know when. [REDACTED] feels we should

be kept informed on all of this since this is a direct result of the Agency's move to be extricated from Laos operations.

GLC

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